

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Koenigsbrueck

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

4 February 1953

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REFERENCES [REDACTED]PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]REMARKS [REDACTED]This is UNEVALUATED
Information

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1. On 4 December 1952, the Nachrichtenschule south of the railroad station and west of Hockendorfer Strasse, Koenigsbrueck, was occupied by about 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia, including some with artillery and motor transport insignia. At 1:20 p.m. on 19 November, 6 T-34/85 tanks entered the installation.

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2. From 7 to 17 November, the Nachrichtenschule was occupied by about 1,200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Four 120-mm mortars, 3 x 122-mm field howitzers and 40 to 50 trucks were seen in the installation. At about 10 a.m. on 7 November, 24 soldiers with 4 x 120-mm mortars were seen en route from the training area to the installation. At 9 a.m. on 17 November, 30 soldiers were seen gathered around three guns in the barracks area.

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3. [REDACTED] the new camp west of the road to Schwepnitz, 1.5 km west of the town, was occupied by about 5,000 troops on 27 November.

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4. On 27 November, the Nachrichtenschule was occupied by about 600 to 800 troops. All barracks buildings were lighted at dusk.

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5. About 26 soldiers with two 32-mm mortars left the Nachrichtenschule on 18 December. On 12 December, open wood sheds for the sheltering of tanks were being built on the slopes of Scheibicher Berg (hill) near the mill of Koenigsbrueck. On 15 December, two T-34 tanks were seen en route to these shelters. On 30 December, 240 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying entrenching tools marched through the town to the new camp at the troop training grounds, coming from the installation. They returned at 3:30 p.m. On 31 December, about 80 soldiers were seen at service of the piece drill on 3 x 76-mm field guns and at individual training on aiming circles in the emplacement immediately south of the Nachrichtenschule. At the same time, 60 to 80 troops were engaged in formation drill with rifles in the barracks installation. On 2 January, about 60 troops received individual training in firing with submachine guns with live ammunition in the Aue. They fired, in prone position with and without support, at silhouettes at 200 meters. On 5 January, 320 to 400 soldiers were lined up in a quadrangle in the Nachrichtenschule. At about 8:45 a.m. on 7 January, about 80 soldiers with maps and field glasses left the installation for field training in the Aue. On 11 January, the installation was occupied by 700 to 800 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and about 90 to 120 officers.

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6. From 30 December 1952 to 11 January 1953, the Altes Lager, northwest of the railroad station, was occupied by a guard and transportation detail of about 100 soldiers.

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7. On 30 December, a two-hour record firing exercise with 4 to 6 guns took place near Neues Lager during the morning hours. the tank unit from Kamenz which was stationed at the troop training grounds had been transferred to the vicinity of Zeisholz between 17 and 22 November.

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8. On 3 January, 180 officers were in the Nachrichtenschule. All barracks buildings were lighted at dusk. From 23 December 1952 to 4 January 1953, 5 to 6 trucks were seen at driving practice every second day. The practice included cross-country-driving and dismounting and looking for cover in simulated air raids. On 24 December, five new moving targets for tanks on a narrow-gauge field railway were seen on the road to Zeisholz immediately behind Schmorkau in the training area. On 27 December, aiming practice at targets in the terrain was practiced on 3 x 76-mm AT guns near Hoeckendorfer Strasse. On 3 January, 18 soldiers were seen practicing throwing hand grenades, close combat with wooden rifles and the assault and penetration of trench positions at the field fortifications near the water tower. Aiming practice on two T-34/35 tanks was being performed in the Aue. Four other tanks were concealed nearby.

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9. Major Burlashnikov succeeded Major Martinenkov, the previous chief of Altes Lager. The Neues Lager was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Korodenkov (all innu and spelled phonetically).

1. Comment. The 44th Gds Tank Regt and the 270th Gds Mort Regt are confirmed in the Nachrichtenschule. The 399th Gds How Arty Regt of the 11th Gds Tank Div is carried in the Luftnachrichten Kaserne in Niekern near Dresden. Therefore, it is believed that the three 122-mm field howitzers observed in the Nachrichtenschule had been stationed there only temporarily. The strength estimate of 600 to 800 men in paragraph 4 of the present report appears too low when considering the fact that the two regiments are stationed there. The field guns mentioned in paragraphs 5 and 8 probably belong to the 44th Gds Tank Regt although, according to the T/E of this type of regiment, only four 57-mm AT guns have been carried there. The transfer to the Zeisholz area of the tank unit from Kamenz, mentioned in paragraph 7 was probably there only temporarily, as the regiment, between early December 1952 and early January 1953, was again confirmed in the Nachrichtenschule. Furthermore, no permanent winter quarters for the quartering of a unit are available in the Zeisholz area.

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2. Comment. No information is available on the occupation of Neues Lager. Most of the units of the 4th Gds AAA Div, if not stationed or employed in the Dresden area, can be carried in Neues Lager. Provided that the strength estimate of 5,000 is approximately correct, other units must be stationed there. The motor vehicles seen at the installation give no indication for the identification of units stationed there.

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3. Comment. According to previous information, the Altes Lager also houses a fuel dump.

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